



## LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

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October 15, 2013

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

### ADOPTED

REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

1-P      October 15, 2013

*Sachi A. Hamai*  
SACHI A. HAMAI  
SECRETARY

Dear Supervisors:

**ALLOCATE CITIES AND SPECIFIED EXCESS FUNDS  
AVAILABLE TO THE FIRST SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT FOR  
GRANTS TO THE CITIES OF AZUSA, BALDWIN PARK, HUNTINGTON PARK, MONTEREY  
PARK, AND SOUTH EL MONTE AS WELL AS TO  
AMIGOS DE LOS RIOS, KARE YOUTH FOUNDATION,  
LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD LAND TRUST, AND LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY GARDEN  
COUNCIL FOR VARIOUS PROJECTS  
(FIRST DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)**

### **SUBJECT**

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate \$3,622,000 in Cities and Specified Excess Funds, available to the First Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, for grants to the Cities of Azusa, Baldwin Park, Huntington Park, Monterey Park, South El Monte as well as to Amigos de los Rios, Kare Youth Foundation, Los Angeles Community Garden Council, and Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust for various projects.

### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Find that the proposed projects of the cities of Azusa, Baldwin Park, Huntington Park, Monterey Park, and South El Monte as well as Amigos de los Rios, Kare Youth Foundation, Los Angeles Community Garden Council, and Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act and for the reasons stated herein and the reasons reflected in the record of the Projects.
2. Allocate \$2,849,000 in Cities Excess Funds available to the First Supervisorial District, pursuant

to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, for various projects as follows:

- a. City of Azusa - \$289,000
- b. City of Baldwin Park - \$500,000
- c. City of Huntington Park - \$250,000
- d. City of Monterey Park - \$480,000
- e. City of South El Monte - \$285,000
- f. City of Irwindale - \$750,000
- g. City of Los Angeles - \$295,000

3. Allocate \$733,000 in Specified Excess Funds available to the First Supervisorial District, pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for a grant to Amigos de los Rios for the La Plaza de Cultura Y Artes Outdoor Improvements Project.

4. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as the Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award grants to the identified grantees, in the amount of \$3,622,000, for their respective projects if applicable conditions have been met and authorize the Director to administer the grants as of the date of this action and pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects; otherwise funds shall remain in the Excess Funds account.

#### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate \$2,849,000 in Cities Excess Funds and \$773,000 in Specified Excess Funds, available to the First Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), as follows:

#### **CITIES EXCESS FUNDS**

- City of Azusa – total \$289,000
  - o \$110,000 – Slauson Park Pool Rehabilitation
  - o \$112,500 – Zacatecas Park Restrooms Development
  - o \$45,000 – Northside Park Disk Golf Walking Path Development
  - o \$21,500 – Pioneer Park, Memorial Park, Veteran's Freedom Park and Gladstone Park Improvements
- City of Baldwin Park – total \$500,000
  - o \$300,000 – Barnes Park Improvements
  - o \$200,000 – Walnut Creek Nature Park Improvements
- City of Huntington Park – \$250,000 for Salt Lake Park Soccer Field Rehabilitation
- City of Monterey Park – total \$480,000
  - o \$400,000 – Cascades Waterfall Rehabilitation
  - o \$80,000 – Edison Trails Park Improvements
- City of South El Monte – total \$285,000
  - o \$125,000 – Senior Center Para-Transit Improvements

- o \$125,000 – Community Center Skate Park Development
- o \$35,000 – Community Center Restroom Improvements
- City of Irwindale – \$750,000 to Kare Youth Foundation (KYF) for the Kare Park Development Project. A grant will be awarded after the City of Irwindale assigns its rights to apply for the funds to KYF.
- City of Los Angeles – total \$295,000
  - o \$20,000 to the Los Angeles Community Garden Council (LACGC) for Glassell Park Community Garden Improvements. A grant will be awarded after the City of Los Angeles assigns its rights to apply for the funds to LACGC.
  - o \$275,000 to the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust (LANLT) for Coronado Street Community Park and Garden Acquisition. A grant will be awarded after the City of Los Angeles assigns its rights to apply for the funds to LANLT.

#### **SPECIFIED EXCESS FUNDS**

- \$773,000 to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for a grant to Amigos de los Rios (ADLR) for La Plaza de Cultura Y Artes Outdoor Improvements. A grant will be awarded after MRCA assigns its rights to apply for the funds to ADLR.

It is also recommended that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director) be authorized to award the grants, when applicable conditions have been met, such as grantee qualifications, consistency between the projects and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and grantee agreement with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the project, if applicable, and to administer the grants pursuant to the Procedural Guide previously approved by your Board.

#### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The recommended actions will further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goals of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1) by enhancing health-promoting recreational opportunities in the First Supervisorial District.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

Sufficient appropriation for the Excess Funds grants, in the amount of \$3,622,000, is budgeted in the First Supervisorial District's portion of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD) Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6.

#### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. Each of the grantees has met this requirement.

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining, each fiscal year, the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The recommended grants will be funded from the Excess Funds available to the First Supervisorial District for Cities and Specified projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director would be authorized to award grants when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board, but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year, shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year.

On June 2, 2009, your Board approved the Procedural Guide to govern the administration of RPOSD grants. The Procedural Guide will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended grants as well.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

All projects funded by RPOSD are required to comply with the CEQA as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. The cities of Azusa, Baldwin Park, Huntington Park, Monterey Park, and South El Monte are the lead agencies for their respective projects. RPOSD is the lead agency for the projects by ADLR, KYF, LACGC, and LANLT.

The City of Azusa's proposed Slauson Park Pool Rehabilitation, Zacatecas Park Restrooms Development, Northside Park Disc Golf Walking Path Development, and Pioneer Park, Memorial Park, Veterans' Freedom Park and Gladstone Park Improvement projects are categorically exempt from CEQA. The projects, which consist of re-plastering of aquatic center pool, installation of new pre-fabricated restroom facility to include ADA access, construction of new disc golf walking path to complete the existing path, installation of new Fibar System Playground surfacing materials, replacement of sand surface, and installation of culture stone to augment existing stone, are within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that they meet the criteria set forth in Sections 15301(d), 15302(c) and 15303(e) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 1(c), 2 (e) and 3 (b) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the projects involve repair and maintenance of existing facilities, replacement of existing structures and new construction of small facilities or structures.

The City of Baldwin Park's proposed Barnes Park Improvements and Walnut Creek Nature Park Improvements projects are categorically exempt from CEQA. The projects consist of a new splash pad with recyclable water system, splash pad water features, rubberized playground surfacing, ADA improvements, site demolition and grading, landscaping, fitness zone, walking markers, a new large picnic shelter near the playground area and shade structure for the fitness zone at Barnes Park; and improvements to the amenities, infrastructure, and natural elements at Walnut Creek Nature Park as per the Walnut Creek Nature Park master plan. These projects are within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that they meet the criteria set forth in Sections 15301(d), 15302(c) and 15303(e) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 1(c), 2 (e) and 3 (b) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the projects involve repair and maintenance of existing facilities, replacement of existing structures and new construction of small facilities or structures.

The City of Huntington Park's proposed Salt Lake Park Soccer Field Rehabilitation project is categorically exempt from CEQA according to Section 15301(d) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 1(c) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves repair and maintenance of an existing facility.

The City of Monterey Park's proposed Cascades Waterfall Rehabilitation and Edison Trails Park Improvement projects are categorically exempt from CEQA. The projects, which consist of a waterfall refurbishment project to include mechanical, electrical, irrigation systems, and walkway refurbishments, irrigation improvements for the natural area, basic amenities for the trail, including benches, drinking fountains and decomposed granite, are within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that they meet the criteria set forth in Sections 15301(d), 15302(c) and 15303(e) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 1(c), 2 (e) and 3 (b) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the projects involve repair and maintenance of existing facilities, replacement of existing structures and new construction of small facilities or structures.

The City of South El Monte's proposed Senior Center Para-Transit Improvement Project; Community Center Skate Park Development Project; and Community Center Restroom Improvement Project are categorically exempt from CEQA. The projects, which consist of installation of a porch/trellis structure at the Senior Center Building entrance including a decorative concrete surface, ADA access, benches and tree planters; demolition/removal of the existing concrete slab, sitting walls and lawn/irrigation; conversion of tennis court to a skate park with installation of modular skating units on the existing concrete slab, to include new fencing and entrance, independent entry to the facility, upgrades to existing restrooms including new tile, partitions and fixtures, are within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that they meet the criteria set forth in Sections 15301(d), 15303(e), and 15304(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 1(c), 3 (b), and 4 (a) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the projects involve repair and maintenance of existing facilities, new construction of small facilities or structures, and minor alterations to land.

The KYF's proposed Kare Park Development Project in the City of Irwindale is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of the development of baseball fields, landscaping and interpretive signage on vacant United States Army Corps of Engineers property near Arrow Highway and adjacent to Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area and the San Gabriel River, is within certain classes of project that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Sections 15303 (e) and 15304(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 3(b) and 4(a) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves new construction of small facilities or structures and minor alterations to land.

The LACGC's proposed Glassell Park Community Garden Improvements Project in the City of Los Angeles is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of installation of a decorative fence around the community garden in the Drew/Estara neighborhood near San Fernando Road and Fletcher in Glassell Park is within certain classes of project that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15303 (e) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 3 (b) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves construction of small new facilities or structures.

The LANLT's proposed Coronado Street Community Park and Garden Acquisition project in the City of Los Angeles is categorically exempt from CEQA according to Section 15325 (f) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 25 (a) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the proposed project consists of acquisition of land to preserve land for park purposes.

The above proposed projects include no expansion of an existing use, and will not involve the

removal of healthy, mature trees. Additionally, the proposed projects are not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed projects' records.

The ADLR proposed Outdoor Improvements Project at La Plaza de Cultura Y Artes is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of the removal of two coral trees and purchase and installation of twenty-three new trees, landscaping, lighting, and a shade structure at La Plaza de Cultura Y Artes is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Sections 15303 (e) and 15304 (b) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 3 (b) and 4 (c) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves installation of accessory structures and new landscaping.

The project proposed by Amigos de los Rios above is not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed projects' records.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

Grant Project Agreements will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director, and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009 only if all applicable conditions of the grant have been met. The Project Agreements will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

These actions will have no impact on any other projects funded by the District but are required so that the grantees may proceed with their park improvement projects in the First Supervisorial District, if all applicable conditions are met.

### **CONCLUSION**

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one adopted copy of this letter to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Projects/Debt Management Division, and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

10/15/2013

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russ Guiney".

RUSS GUINEY

Director

RG:JB

WRO:MPL

c: Chief Executive Office  
County Counsel  
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors